“Three Skeleton Key” by George G. Toudouze

Name:

Date:

Period:

**Previewing Texts**

1. Preview the text by looking at the pictures and reading the captions. What do

you predict this story will be about?

I think this story is going to be about...because…

2. Fill out the first two boxes of the K-W- L Chart below. Now that you’ve previewed the

text, write down what you know about the topic in Box #1. Write down what you want

to find out in Box #2. When you finish reading the story, write what you’ve learned or

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| K | W | L |
| What I **KNOW** now | What I **WANT** to find out | What I **LEARNED** |

discovered in Box#3.

**Questions For Thought**

Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences. Be sure to proofread your answers and be prepared to share.

1. Where does the narrator work? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. How did the Three Skeleton Key rock get its name? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. What did the narrator see on the 9th night after his return? Why was this strange?

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4. What is the name of the ship? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. What was the reason why nobody was on the ship?

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6. How are ships’ rats different from ordinary land rats? Think about personification. (This term should go into your literary terms flash cards section of your notebook.)

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7. What can you infer from the small boats still being in place on the ship?! %!

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8. What does Itchoua mean when he says that they can change the name of the place to Six Skeleton Key? How is this a pun? You may have to look up pun. (Put pun in your literary terms flashcards.)

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9. What was the name given to the largest rat? Why do they name him this?

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10. What did the men not do that was the “greatest breach of their service?” Why?

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11. How did the sharks help the men?

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12. How does Itchoua keep the patrol boat from leaving?

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13. What happens to the rats in the end?

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14. What happens to Le Gleo and Itchoua in the end?

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15. What is surprising about the ending?

**Literary Focus**: Suspense, Foreshadowing, Plot, Conflict, Pun, Setting, Mood, and Theme (Make sure these are in your literary terms flashcards.)

Directions: Answer the following questions about the following literary terms.

1. What is foreshadowing? Identify three instances of foreshadowing from the story. Did you predict what was going to happen from the hints? Explain why or why not. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Describe the overall setting of the story.

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3. What is the conflict of the story?

4. Theme is the main idea of a story that has a connection to real life or society, or human nature. Themes often explore timeless or universal experiences of human beings like death or seasons/change for example. (Put theme in your literary flashcards!) From the story discuss the themes telling which is the overall theme. Give examples from the text to prove your point.

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**5. Mood is how a piece of literature makes you feel (Remember?). What is the mood of the story? Why is it the mood. Give at least three details from the story to support your opinion.**

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**Critical Thinking**

**Directions: The author chooses an abandoned island as the setting of his horror story. Why do you think he chose this setting?**

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